

# DIRECT ACTION



SYNDICALIST WORKERS FEDERATION

British Section of the International Workers Association

Op  
no. 12



## AN INJURY to one is an injury to all

The turnover of each of the world's top ten multinational companies is greater than the Gross National Product of over 153 countries. These companies have an average growth rate which roaring ahead at more than two or three times the rate of the world's wealthy nations. Their power is unparalleled in world history. They say what kind of clothes we shall wear. What kind of house we live in, if we have one. They decide the type of environment we have around us.

Multinational companies are not limited to one country. They move about the world seeking out places where raw materials are cheap and where production costs are low. They are a law unto themselves.

When Imperial Typewriters decided to move their two British factories abroad 1,500 jobs were lost at very short notice. Every day we are told in the papers and the media that we must put the 'national interest' first.

The multinationals don't give a damn for the 'national interest' don't care which countries they operate in, as long as they are making a handsome profit. We are told repeatedly to buy British. Who really knows what is British produce and what is not? Goods are imported into this country which have been produced by British firms abroad where they own factories. One can buy commodities which are made here in American, German or Japanese owned firms.

Not one of these companies cares a jot for such mythical abstractions like the 'national interest'. They are only interested in hard solid profits!

We didn't elect these corporations to their powerful position. Yet, they have more power than the Governments. When it suits their purpose they will conspire against the regime of the country in which they are operating.

I.T.T. the American electronics giant was involved up to its neck in the plot to overthrow Allende in Chile. Now, more than ever we cannot organise on national basis to conduct a winning fight against capitalism. The system is world wide. The interests of the working class and the boss class are diametrically opposed, but the bosses have a clear idea of their interests whilst the workers are split and divided, their heads full of racist and nationalist junk.

When the tide of unemployment rises, when wages are forced down in real terms, some are only too ready to swallow the racist claptrap of the NF, NP, or even of the Labour Party variety. Blame immigrants and imports for the current economic crisis. Blame the workers for being greedy and lazy. Blame anything other than the real cause of it all, the capitalist system!

For make no mistake, the only way to cure the present slump is to destroy both capitalism and its protector, the state. There is no way in which the victimisation of the immigrant population can achieve an end to the slump. The whole race issue is nothing more than a red herring which is being used by the Boss Class to divide the Working Class.

Don't forget that there were very few coloured workers in this country during the 1930's. But then of course they tried to make scapegoats out of the Jews.

AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN  
INJURY TO ALL.

# JAPAN

## spring offensive

### SPRING OFFENSIVE

For better or for worse, the astonishing post-war recovery of the Japanese economy has become a celebrated phenomenon. But few people save the Japanese consumers themselves, are aware of the accompanying, and equally astonishing, rise in consumer prices—some 10% to 20% annually. As a result, the labour movement in Japan has established as its major premise that wage rates should rise by at least an equivalent amount every year.

The strategy devised to carry through this premise has been the uniquely Japanese "Spring Offensive" (Shunto). Generally speaking, the strategy runs as follows: at the beginning of each spring, representatives of the labour unions meet to formulate a proposed wage demand for that year, based on the current rate of price hikes. After arriving at a agreed figure, unions all over the country then begin negotiations with the management. As a rule, the lead is taken by the big powerful unions, while the smaller, weaker ones follow behind them. The figure which the former manages to wrest from the employers (the "wage-hike index") more or less decides the fate of the latter and all workers in Japan.

Needless to say, however, negotiations between the two sides run less than smoothly. So, when the talks break down, unions all over the country, led by SOHYO (General Council of Trade Unions, the main labour grouping), begin a strike campaign. "Strike", though, with the result that the union leaders are usually cajolled into accepting a figure which the Government mediators think tolerable—high enough to satisfy the unionists, and low enough to appease the company directors. Of course, once this "bosses only" stage is reached, the rank and file workers have no clue at all of what is happening to their wage demands. They are like puppets, dancing to the tune of the instructions which reach them from on high.

Anyway, like it or not, the "Spring Offensive" strategy for seeking wage hikes has persisted for the past twenty years, thanks to the prodigious growth rate of the Japanese economy. In the past couple of years, however, sudden changes have been set in motion. The oil

is hardly the word for what takes place. Stepping the trains for two hours, knocking off work for half a day, holding a meeting instead—this is the usual pattern. In other words a form of struggle feasible only for workers in large corporations. On the other hand, as has become usual, the national railway workers announce a one day strike, all of the mass media—television, radio newspapers—let out a unanimous shriek of protest about the inconvenience caused to innocent people and so on. A radical labour movement in Japan thus faces the same problems as do those elsewhere.

When the wage negotiations finally break down, the Government's arbitration council is empowered to intervene. From this point on, all decisions are made by repeated meetings of the bosses on both sides,

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WHAT'S THAT RUMBLING NOISE?



panic" of October 1973 brought Japan nose to eyeball with its greatest business slump since the war. First textiles circles, then the motor car manufacturers, the steel industry, and the makers of small electrical appliances, one by one felt the pinch. Throughout Japanese industry, production fell. The consequence for wage negotiations, naturally the size of the "pie" to be shared out between company and employees.

Japan has now entered a phase of "minus" or, at best, slow economic growth. Logically, it is now being said, that the "Spring Offensive" should also be abandoned. In fact, though this strategy has always done more harm than good to those who should reap the benefits. Why? The reasons are:

1. It has become an annual event—a kind of ceremonial festival in which not only has the sense of a workers' struggle all but disappeared, but which also allows unions to be totally inactive outside the "Spring Offensive" period.
2. It has accelerated trends towards centralisation within the labour movement. Since all effective negotiations are carried among the "bosses," the effect on the labour movement as a whole has been debilitating.
3. It has been taken over by the government and by the opposition Communist, Socialist and Democratic Socialist parties as a political strategem. In other words, the wage settlement achieved by the campaign is tied up with all sorts of political issues (i.e., parliamentary power struggles); and is used as a pawn in the political underworld.
4. It benefits only workers employed in large concerns; the vast majority, those employed by small and medium sized firms, are quite neglected. The present depression has encouraged this tendency, since the latter, unable to strike, are seen to be completely at the mercy of the former, who by their power to dictate the year's wage rise, constitute in effect no more than sub-contractors.
5. It widens the class differences within the working class itself. The big capitalists, by their conciliatory approach towards the major unions, have been able to cut them off from the lower-paid workers. In other words, a clever system of divide and rule has come about. We Japanese workers must fight to destroy this process!
6. The time calls for a return to a real labour movement, one which embodies the image of the worker her/himself. Now that the absolute value of the economic pie has shrunk, the "Spring Offensive" style of movement which shortsightedly relies on simply taking a larger share for itself has become redundant. From now on, a new kind of movement, one which combines voluntary efforts to increase the size of the pie with the assurance of its fair distribution, one with its sights firmly set on a society based on workers' self-management of production, may well be on the move!

This article has been taken from 'Libero International'





## SECTARIAN

In the April issue of "Libertarian Struggle" in an article entitled 'The Impending Con of Spanish Democracy'. There is a statement, which says that many members of the CNT have a 'new analysis' and they speak of 'working class autonomy' and 'libertarian communism'. How this can be described as a new analysis we don't know, the statutes of the AIT, mentions libertarian communism throughout the document. Workers' autonomy is of course common to all the Anarchist who take a working class line. Talk about making up differences where none really exist!

## UP BEFORE THE UNION

The nature of the building industry makes it one of the most difficult to organise. A trade union member can literally go for donkeys years without being asked to show his union card. Being nicknamed dry land sailors, it is not hard to understand why, with so many small firms subcontracting, self-employment tax fiddles and all the rest of the artful dodges that operate in the industry, why there is such a small percentage holding union cards. On the other side of the coin, the unions themselves, aren't all sweetness and light, and leave a lot to be desired.

Even where you have a fairly stable work force, like on a local authority, unionisation is at a minimum on the building side of the council. Many are just satisfied with a job on the council because of the security it can bring, and the extra benefits, like full basic pay when sick.

But Local Authorities, unlike private firms are not directly concerned with profits. They also have this old buddies relationship with the trade unions, like well, we are such good employers that really our employees don't need the union, or rather any union organisation on the sites. Of course this far from the truth. However the unions are not so much interested in good site organisation, but operative who belong to a union. The check-off system is a 'god send' to them because it is an easy way out for apathetic workers, and for the unions who want numbers and the cash.

### SITES

In my own section of the industry we have had some measure of success organising sites. This led to the formation of a shop stewards committee with a regular constituted meeting with the officers of the local authority. All this has been done without the unions, except that the frame work for such meetings etc had been agreed between them and the local authorities.

As readers will no doubt from their own experience, the union leadership dislike their members taking independent action be it only calling a meeting amongst themselves to discuss problems of common interests. So when our union finally takes an interest in our section some active members are called before the area committee of the



BY ORGANISING INDUSTRIALLY WE ARE FORMING THE STRUCTURE OF THE NEW SOCIETY WITHIN THE SHELL OF THE OLD.

union. Firstly, it seems that the major crime was calling our own meetings without one of the area committee present. However, since these meetings are attended by other unions, it would hardly be right for an elected, all be it a lay, member attending from only one of the unions.

The area committee wants to know how it can help us. It wants to recruit members;

that is after all these years of neglect when full time organisers could have visited sites and recruited members, and had shop stewards elected. Also, many of these same lay members sitting around the table in the union's offices have in the past called the same sort of meetings I had done, and yet not one said a thing after the secretary had made his attack. It must also be said that they were members of a party professing to hold revolutionary ideals for the emancipation of the working class.

But what it shows for Anarcho-syndicalists is how militants can be incorporated into the a reformist organisation. We had not requested the meeting but the impression they gave was that we had, and they asked what they could do for us.

This is really an indictment of the trade unions, both of their inability to organise an industry and the feeling that the Union offers very little anyway. Trade unionism isn't seen as a principle, but something one has to join, a little against one's will. In that sort of situation it is hard to put over a case for joining except the unity it brings to a site.

This area committee could do very little for us, we knew it, but really they did not want admit it.

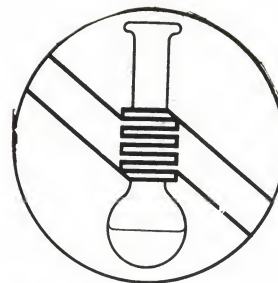
### CHECK OFF SYSTEM

All the time in the background was the check-off system. Once every operative has been joined up this way, we have the union fodder enabling the leadership to enjoy their position of power. The regular contributions received will assure the financial position of the union.

Trade unions in Britain are only concerned with securing what they can from the employers with the minimum of direct action. The building unions are no exception. As Anarcho-syndicalists, we are not interested in gaining positions within the union like Labour Party members, trotskyists, and communists. We are concerned with organising and not being "organised".

Organising for the overthrow of the system that pits man against woman against each other. We are not satisfied with reforms, we want each and everyone to run their own lives, and not be exploited by a minority who at present control the social, political and economic system.

Building Worker.



## Workers' Health Centre

The Sheffield Science for the People group, an autonomous regional grouping within the Society for Social Responsibility in Science, is establishing a full time centre in Sheffield, which will provide information on occupational health and safety for local workers. Also, it will be arranging educational meetings on the subject. The Centre will carry out research into health hazards at work. They will provide technical equipment for the monitoring of these hazards.

The Centre will have the support of the Joint Trades Union Committee on Industrial Safety. During the course of the year; the group will be trying to raise funds to support the centre. To this end local union assistance, stewards committees etc, will be essential.

Last year, the group worked out a practical hazards at work course, which is being run in conjunction with the W.E.A. The course has attracted a lot of interest both in Sheffield and in Rotherham.

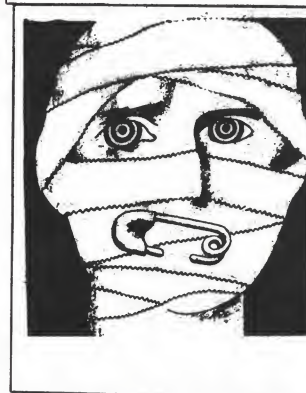
The group have already provided technical assistance to workers in the form of noise monitoring and dust sampling. One steward wrote to the SFP to say that, "SFP has been of great help to welders....regarding the noise problem in our factory. With loan of a noise meter we were able to force management to bring in experts and offer some kind of protection for welders and turners."

The group would like to hear from people who access to technical equipment in chemistry for the analysis of dust and solvent samples, and also in acoustics.

Contact: Science for the People, 14 Goodwin Rd, Sheffield S8

# CHILD LABOUR

On 31st March, a picket was held outside J&D Plastics in Dukinfield, Cheshire, by about 30 Trade Unionists from the Tameside area. It had been organised by the Tameside Trades Council in protest against the use of child labour



## OIL KILLER

HM Factory Inspectorate has spoken of one machine shop "with at least 16 cases of cancer of the scrotum as well as skin lesions out of a work force of 85- an incidence of 1 in 5! More than half the men treated for scrotal cancer die- the majority within three years of treatment."

The Factory Inspectorate also accept that oils which cause skin cancer are liable to cause cancer of the lungs and stomach; and this great repercussions for the general population, the air levels in cities contain such cancer producing compounds from motor exhausts; and urban levels of lung cancer are known to be higher than rural ones.

But how many working with oils are aware of the long term health effects?

OIL - A Workers' Guide to the Health Hazards and How to Fight Them. Available from BSSRS, 9, Poland St London W1V 3DG.

75p+ 20p p&p or from Grassroots, 109 Oxford Rd, Manchester 1.

by this firm. Youngsters between the ages 13 and 16 had been working there for 22 hours a week. This is on top of spending about 30 hours at school each week.

There is also evidence to suggest that some youngsters were working there during school time. While schools are run the way they are at present, they aren't necessarily the best place for children to be- but being at school is certainly a lot less dangerous than working in a factory operating a plastic welding machine, or a guillotine. After all, it's not very pleasant to lose a hand at 25 or 30, let alone at the age of 13 before you've even had time to grow up.

What was the firm's motive for employing youngsters and risking their lives. Firstly, they didn't pay National Insurance on them, secondly they paid them a very low wage - approximately 30p per hour as opposed to the £1, an adult may have expected for doing the same job.

The manager, Mr D. Grant told the "Ashton and District Reporter" that "There have been no kids employed here for a considerable time". It is true that he no longer employs children now- but this is because the Tameside Education Department, prodded on by the Trades Council, started to sniff around. The Education Department, of course, has done nothing - in fact they even told the "Ashton and District Reporter" that there was no evidence to prove that children had been employed there.

This yet again shows the obvious class nature of law - if one of those kids had vandalised the factory they would have been brought before the Juvenile Court, but this firm which exploited these children's labour power - and paid them a very low wage for it, as well as risking their lives, gets away scot free.

"The worst thief is he who steals the playtime of children"

Big Bill Haywood - IWW Militant

DT, DP.



## DOLE

TOWARDS A SYNDICALISM  
OF THE UNEMPLOYED?.

If you are on the dole, may be you'll ask yourself how can Syndicalism relate to your situation? Isn't all about the workers taking control of the factories? Yes, but the two of the main principles of Anarchosyndicalism are those which stress the federal form of organisation and the importance of people being in control of their living environment. This is capable of being applied to other places besides the work situation, but where the class struggles rage just the same!

Therefore, we must try to adapt the ideas to other areas, like the tenants, the unemployed, and housewives.

Already there have been attempts in this direction by groups who have had little or no contact with syndicalists, or syndicalist ideas. However they have organised themselves on lines that syndicalists fully approve.

Of special interest to us syndicalists is the structure of the Claimants' Unions. Each union is autonomous, the National Federation of Claimants' Unions has a federal structure, and not the unitary form of organisation of the usual Trade Union with branches in different localities. The N.F.C.U. is a network of all the Claimants Unions affiliated together. This quote from the Handbook speaks for itself. "We are in daily conflict with an enormous, centralised state bureaucracy i.e. the Social Security Section of the Department of Health and Social Security. We want a Movement which does not reflect this. An Hierarchical structure with a national headquarters would mean discipline and regulation from above with a strong possibility of state co-option. Local unions would soon lose their spontaneity and militancy, and power would be removed from the grassroots."

DON'T FORGET THE PRESS  
FUND.



# NHS CUTS

5

In a recent circular to all health authorities in Britain, Barbara Castle - then the Minister of Health - ordered them to do two things 1) To keep the wage bill for administrative staff during the next year, to the same level as it was at the end of March 1976. 2) To make a review of staff and their organisation for implementation during 1977/8 and 1978/9 (or before if needs be). Coupled with this the health authorities have also been ordered to make a study of the likely effects on the efficiency



### A NEW WAY TO PAY OLD DEBTS?

The BBC has asked the Government to allow them to increase the colour TV licence to £27 by next spring. This is on top of the recent Gas and Electricity price rises.

In Italy prices have risen there also. However, the Italian working class is fighting back, through a campaign of "Autoreduzione" which means Self-reduction. The way it works is that when prices are increased, then people refuse to pay the new rate. For example, when the bus fares were raised in a number of Italian cities passengers just refused to pay the extra. Because so many people were involved in this form of action the authorities were powerless to do anything about it. Here in Britain people have relied on the lying politicians to keep prices down, when by mass action they could cut prices 'at a stroke' by the simple method of not paying the extra amount.

At least then the bosses couldn't accuse us of being the cause of inflation when it would be obvious to everyone that the opposite was true!

of the NHS, if a 5% or a 10% cut were to be made.

What does all this mean to NHS office workers? Obviously, we can only speculate but from the above things look very grim. Firstly, because NHS office workers in April received their £6 increase under the Social Contract. The only way in which the wage bill will remain the same is by putting down on the workforce. Coupled with this is the proposed staffing review which NHS workers will be subjected to in the near future. It is obvious that the Government intends cutting down on the NHS workforce - why else would they be asking for a report on the feasibility of a 5% and 10% reduction in office workers if they don't intend using the results.

This is another attempt by the bosses to make us the workers, pay for the current economic crisis. We're always being told how it is our fault that the economy is in a mess. Yet, there have always been economic ups and downs under capitalism. You've only to look back to the 30's and the mid 60's and the last years of the Heath Government to see that. Each time the working class has had to pay for the crisis.

All attempts to make us pay for the crisis must be fought - which includes fighting redundancies and unemployment. We must not however fall into the trap of demanding the 'right to work' which is in fact the 'right to be exploited'.

ARBEIT MACHT FREI !

Don't forget that the slogan above the gates of Auschwitz was the German for "Work makes you free". Apart from this rights are concessions given to us by the state, which can be taken away from us again. An example of this is the NHS (welfare state) which is undergoing cuts along with the other social services.

The only way of solving the economic crisis permanently is the complete abolition of Capitalism, along with the state, and its replacement by a system of production for need controlled directly by the workers.



AIT-IWA

IWA-AIT Congress.

The 15th Congress of the International Workers' Association took place in Paris over the Easter week-end. Sections represented were the Spanish CNT in exile, French CNT, the Bulgarian CNT in exile. The Venezuelan FORVE and the SWF.

There were however comrades attending from Italy, Germany, Switzerland and Portugal.

The Secretariat reported on the relations of the various sections. Those present gave reports of their activities and the difficulties encountered respective countries. Naturally these varied with type of regime in power. In particular, it was interesting to hear about Portugal, and that the newly affiliated section had been making headway with their propaganda among factory workers and those on the land. The Anarcho syndicalists' idea of workers' control was being put forward, and they were making progress. At the same time, they had to combat the false ideals of the various marxist groups and parties.

The secretariat had had some difficulty in contacting sections of the IWA. This was especially true of those in South America. Groups of Friends of the IWA have been formed in Denmark and Germany, and it was agreed later that such groups should have the same rights within the IWA as the Sections.

Various attempts have been made to gain a close relationship with both the IWW in the United States, and the SAC in Sweden. So far, the Secretariat has not been very successful.

The SWF's resolution to remove 'workingmen', and its replacement by workers' in the name of the International was ratified by Congress. The Secretariat had already accepted this change and understood how misleading and prejudiced it sounded to women workers in this country.

My thanks to the Secretariat for arrangements they made for me, and for a well organised Congress. Also a word of thanks to all those who helped me with translations. P.T.

RALF STEIN

The SWF is opposed to all Governments no matter what their political colour. All hold political prisoners, not just Chile, Spain, West Germany, but Russia and China as well. And BRITAIN!!

In April Ralf Stein was finally brought to trial by the West German state. BEFREIUNG, the German anarcho-syndicalist paper has described Ralf's trial as a farce.



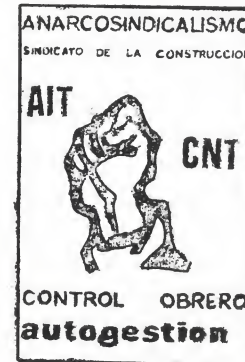
RALF STEIN

Altogether Ralf has been sentenced to 18 months imprisonment. However, because he had spent the previous year on remand in Prison his arrest warrant has been suspended. He is now free. In fact he recently visited the "Freedom" office in London.

Ralf still isn't free from the shadow of imprisonment. The West German state is considering a retrial (The state prosecutor demanded a sentence of 4 years imprisonment).

It seems that the West German state is out to Ralf for his activities in helping political prisoners. One of the charges against him was that he is member of an illegal organisation. In fact, not that it matters, to them, Ralf doesn't belong to an officially prescribed political group Befreiung, the group to which he belongs has condemned the tactics of the Red Army Fraction and the 2nd of June Group, but along with a number of respectable liberal elements, who have not been arrested, he was concerned with the defence of the R.A.F. prisoners.

Support the work of the Anarchist Black Cross in their campaign to help All Libertarian prisoners



## SOVIET WEAKLY!

The 'Soviet Weekly' 19th April, writing about the situation in Argentina after the coup d'etat says that the coup "was a fait accompli and Argentine democratic forces (sic) agree that in present conditions, a military civilian government on a broad coalition basis is the only way forward

This military dictatorship has already outlawed strikes, frozen the funds of the unions, introduced the death penalty, it has suspended political parties. So, dear comrades who are the democratic forces you speak about?

This regime has launched a vicious attack on the living standards of the Argentinian working class, and half a million workers have been sacked since the take over. If the type of situation ever arose in Britain, could we expect the CP to take a similar line????

## Spain

According to information received the CNT in Catalonia held a regional assembly in the Sant's area of Barcelona on the 29th February. This regional meeting was attended by over 600 delegates and militants. The meeting represented various groups who had the aim of setting up a regional organisation.

In addition to organisation, they discussed union tactics with regard to present situation. Also the crucial question of a unified labour movement & plurality of confederations. The meeting was attended a large number of young workers.

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# NO TO nukes

The German Government has given the go-ahead for the world's first nuclear power in a densely populated urban area.

The German Government has just given the go-ahead for the world's first nuclear power station in an urban area. This is at Ludwigshafen on the Rhine in what is to be the largest chemical plant in the world. It's similar in design to a type of reactor that was rejected in Britain 2 years ago. Because of its location inside a plant that will employ more than 50,000 people the whole reactor will be encased in a shield 6ft thick, lined with 1 1/2 in of steel plate.

Here in Britain, the Heysham, and the one Hartlepool are sited near to urban centres. According to McKean, Tyrell and Burrow who wrote in "Nuclear Engineering International" that "The Heysham nuclear power station has 150,000 people living within a 5 mile radius"... "Both stations are urban sited",... in the desirable aim to place large nuclear plants near to main load areas".

In the search for 'cheap' sources of energy the powers that be will put thousands of people at risk. Other forms of energy must be used if we, and future generations are to survive! This must go hand in hand with a new form of society, anarchist society.

Some of the information for this article comes from "Half Life", in future issues we hope to have more on the relationship between new sources of fuel, alternative technology and the free anarchist society.

## Direct Action

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## Our Aims and Principles

**THE SYNDICALIST WORKERS' FEDERATION:** seeks to establish a free society which will render impossible the growth of a privileged class and the exploitation of one person by another. The S.W.F. therefore advocates common ownership and workers' control of the land, industry and all means of production and distribution on the basis of voluntary co-operation. In such a society the wage system, finance and money shall be abolished and goods produced and distributed not for profit, but according to human needs.

**THE STATE:** The State in all its forms, embodying authority and privilege, is the enemy of the workers and can not exist in a free, classless society. The S.W.F. does not therefore hope to use the state to achieve a free society, it does not seek to obtain seats in the Cabinet or in Parliament. It aims at the abolition of the state. It actively opposes all war and militarism.

**CLASS STRUGGLE:** The interests of the working class and those of the ruling class are directly opposed. The S.W.F. is based on the inevitable day to day struggle of the workers against those who own and control the means of production and distribution, and will continue that struggle until common ownership and workers' control are achieved.

**DIRECT ACTION:** Victory in the fight against class domination can be achieved only by the direct action and solidarity of the workers themselves. The S.W.F. rejects all Parliamentary and similar activity as deflecting the workers from the

class struggle into paths of class collaboration.

**ORGANISATION:** To achieve a free classless society the workers must organise. They must replace the hundreds of craft and general trade unions by syndicalist industrial unions. As an immediate step to that end the S.W.F. aids the formation of workers' committees in all factories, mines, offices, ship yards, mills, and other places of work and their development into syndicates, federated nationally. Such syndicates will be under direct rank and file control, with all delegates subject to immediate recall.

**INTERNATIONALISM:** The S.W.F. as a section of the International Workers' Association, stands firm for international working class solidarity.

## A BATALHA

Our comrades of the Portuguese Anarcho-Syndicalist movement and their fortnightly paper "A Batalha" need our support so that they are able to present a revolutionary alternative to the Portuguese workers. Please send money, books and support to:  
A Batalha,  
Rua Angelina, Vidal, 17-2 Esq  
Lisbon Portugal

## INDUSTRIAL NETWORK

The Libertarian Industrial Network, seeks to provide a point of contact for Libertarians who are in industry, and want to exchange information on their experiences, and the struggles that they are involved in.

At a recent meeting of the N.C. of the Syndicalist Workers' Federation it was recommended that members of the SWF should affiliate to the Network.

Also, we strongly urge all Syndicalists and Libertarians to support the Network.

Write to: M. Everett,  
11, Gibson Gardens,  
Saffron Walden,  
ESSEX.

### INDUSTRIAL NETWORK CONTACTS

PRINT: A Meltzer 26a Eastbourne Rd., Tottenham, London, N15.  
POST: P Ruff c/o 123 Upper Tollington Park, London N4.  
REFUSE: D Barnsdale, 16 St Leonards Rd., Surbiton, Surrey.  
COUNCIL WORKERS: I Sutherland 13 Deincourt Close, Spondon, Derby.  
HEALTH: P McShane, 11 St Margarets Rd., Oxford.

# AUTO MAT

Workers at Automat, in Swinton, near Manchester, have been on strike more than 16 weeks.

The strike which is officially back by the AUEW is about union recognition. For about 20 years there has been no union at Automat. Automat products are being blacked in a number of places like Chloride's place at Clifton Junction.

The firm makes power charges. These are supplied to the Gas Board, GPO, British Rail, GEC and vickers. The strike is continuing.

# Spain

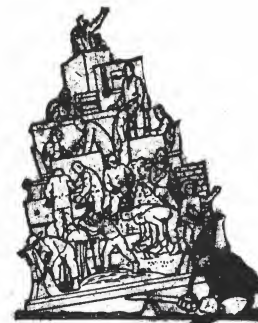
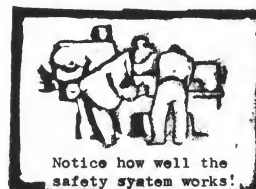
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On April 23rd, the CNT held another conference in Barcelona. This was attended by 800 delegates. We understand from the Iberian Libertarian committee's news bulletin in 20/5/76 that the structure of the CNT at the moment has not been finalised. This is because there is an on going debate on the form of organisation to be taken. Generally, the older comrades want the organisational shape of the 1930's, and the younger comrades want increased branch autonomy to a far greater level. This is to be resolved at the next conference.

We also understand from the same source that the CNT is to publish a clandestine monthly paper called 'Solidaridad Obrera' which was the same as the name of one of the CNT's daily papers, during and before the Civil War. This should have already appeared by the time you read this article. However, at present we cannot confirm this. It is thought that the openly published 'Sindicalismo' (30,000 circulation) when the first 'Solidaridad Obrera' reappears. 'Sindicalismo' has been in difficulties with the Minister of the Interior, and its very openness has proved to be a way in which the state tried to exert control.

MAY 1st.

In the week before May Day, the CNT distributed 150,000 leaflets calling for action on May Day. The week before May Day there were strikes in the Engineering Industry. There were confrontations with the police by the pickets, and the building of defensive barricades. Attempts were made to co-ordinate activities of Engineering and building workers. The Building workers were waiting for a wage settlement to be put into effect.



LOOK, IT'S NOT AS  
DIFFICULT AS YOU  
THOUGHT!

The dustbinmen went on strike a few days before May Day, blacklegs were driven away by local people. It took the riot police to clear the streets and the army finally had to move the rubbish.

On May Day itself 12,000 riot police occupied Catalonia Sq in the centre of Barcelona, to prevent the May Day march which was scheduled to begin there. The result was that there were continual clashes between demonstrators and riot police from 10am until 3pm. Small barricades were thrown up by the crowds, and the police were fought with variety of weapons. About 200 people were arrested.

The CNT had been invited to the meeting to plan this demonstration, they arrived to find that the plans had been finalised. Although the CNT disagreed with the plans they decided to turn up with their own banners and slogans. This position was distorted by the bourgeois press and the Communists.

According to our eyewitness, about 50,000 people were involved in the demonstrations. However, it appears that the Communist Party have been saying that the clashes will tend to prejudice the boss class against democracy, and are therefore a mistake.

## PAMPHLETS

WORKERS CONTROL 15p  
SYNDICALISTS IN THE RUSSIAN  
REVOLUTION 10p  
HUNGARIAN WORKERS REVOLUTION  
10p  
REVOLUTION 1917/1936 10p  
Available from I Smith, Flat 2  
Bray House, Chunal, Glossop,  
Derbyshire.  
Please add 10p for postage with  
every 50p worth of pamphlets.

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## THE MOVEMENT

National Secretariat  
Box 101,  
c/o 84b Whitechapel High  
Street, London, E1.

D. Pattison  
83 Thorncliffe Ave.  
Dukinfield, Cheshire.

Manchester S.W.F.  
c/o 109 Oxford Rd.  
Manchester M1  
Tel (evenings)  
Westhoughton 812911

We have members in other  
areas besides the addresses  
given above.

Libertarian Communists in  
Ireland. Contact: Alan  
MacSimoin, 4 Ard Lui Park,  
Blackrock, Co. Dublin.

Canadian Adolescent wishes to  
correspond with British  
syndicalist. Write to Martin  
Deck, 3069 Alexander, Windsor,  
ONT, CANADA.

FREEDOM Anarchist fortnightly  
Published Freedom Press,  
84b, Whitechapel High Street,  
London E.1. Subscription rates;  
£4.30 1 year, £2.15 6 months.  
BLACK FLAG, Organ of the  
Anarchist Black Cross. 15p  
plus postage for a sample  
copy from 83, Thorne Rd,  
Thornton Lodge, Huddersfield,  
Yorkshire. (mail only).

### NEW ADDRESS

Part 11 of 'Syndicalists,  
Marxism and Unions will  
appear in the next issue of  
'Direct Action'

## grass roots

Books on ANARCHISM, "FREEDOM".  
SIMIAN. CIENFUEGOS. Publications.  
Also Workers' History, Politics,  
Women's Movement, Civil Liberties,  
Ecology, Alternative, Alternative  
Technology. Posters. Wide range of  
Community and Radical Magazines.  
Send for a book list.

GRASS ROOTS BOOKSHOP, 109 OXFORD RD  
MANCHESTER M1 7DU.



# FIGHT TO WIN

The publication of this Direct Action Supplement should be seen, perhaps, as a statement of intent. It reflects the ongoing debate within the Direct Action Movement (DAM) about the direction we intend to move in, with few illusions, and more importantly the direction of the (dis?)organised working class in the face of a continuous onslaught by the Tory Government.

As the Trade Unions openly cave-in to, or comply with, the bosses; as they become more and more divorced from the day to day reality of those they are meant to represent i.e. working-class people, we see Anarcho-syndicalist organisation as more relevant than ever.

We realise that in recent times especially, to most workers Anarcho-syndicalism is unfamiliar, though not inherently alien. This we intend to rectify.

We are open about our intentions and our politics. We have no 'hidden agenda'. The Networks that are mentioned elsewhere in this issue have been set up by DAM members who work in those industries, though the membership of them is not

## COMMENT



exclusively composed of DAM. *That is neither our wish or a condition of being part of a network.*

At the moment these networks are small and so initially act as propaganda group and as a focus point for militants. However, interest in them is increasing and we hope to see more networks being set-up, and existing ones getting bigger, in the not-too-distant future. In the long-term, the intention is to federate them, on

a national level, into a Union that is both willing and capable of fighting for our class.

The creation of such a Union is the reason for the DAM's existence. We don't see the DAM as end in *itself*. A unique position amongst political organisations in Britain.

There is nothing that the DAM can do that the Union won't be able to. There is plenty of things that the Union will be capable of that the DAM isn't. This is because the DAM can only operate within the political field, thereby divorced from the workplace.

What then of DAM? At its National Conference held recently, there was a lengthy debate on this point. In fact it centred more so on what the DAM's role should be *now* rather than at the point of the networks federating.

We realise that there is some confusion about the relationship between the DAM and the Networks, as there was when the Despatch industry Workers Union (DIWU) existed. Some people thought that DIWU was a DAM 'front'; in fact although set-up by two DAM members (both Despatch riders) DIWU at its peak never had more than a

Continued on back page



# A FIGHTING UNION

## REVOLUTIONARY UNIONS

The first thing to say about an anarcho-syndicalist union is that it is NOT a trade union of ANARCHISTS, but an anarcho-syndicalist union of WORKERS.

We completely reject the concept of TRADE unions as being divisive and put forward INDUSTRIAL unions as the alternative.

For us it doesn't matter if you are a cleaner, typist, canteen worker or mechanic, if you work in the same industry e.g transport, you would be in the same union - one industry, one union! The idea is to increase our strength in the fight against management and the bosses.

## STRUCTURE

An anarcho-syndicalist union is almost completely opposite in its structure and decision making process to the present day TUC unions, which are run by full-time officials (on wages that can be compared to a boss rather than a worker) who are out of touch with their members.

We believe that real union democracy means that all decisions are taken at the base first, in the workplace branch meeting, which is open to all members. That is where election of delegates and any office holders takes place. Any and all such delegates/office holders are subject to immediate recall and are always accountable to the membership.

An anarcho-syndicalist union has no permanent full-time paid officials. If, as has been known at various times, the workload is so great, a wage may be agreed but only at the holders previous wage and for a limited term. Also, the rotation of delegates and post-holders (i.e. secretary) after a fixed term ensures that any encroaching bureaucratic tendencies are curtailed.

The workplace branch would link with others in the same industry at local, area/region and national level. This is to co-ordinate action and solidarity. Each branch would retain its AUTONOMY, meaning it is in control of its own affairs.

The unions of DIFFERENT industries would then come together also, in the local federation, the regional federation etc. The 'local', perhaps centred in a building, would also be open to other representative organisations like tenants associations for instance. This would help create both cross-union solidarity AND community bases and

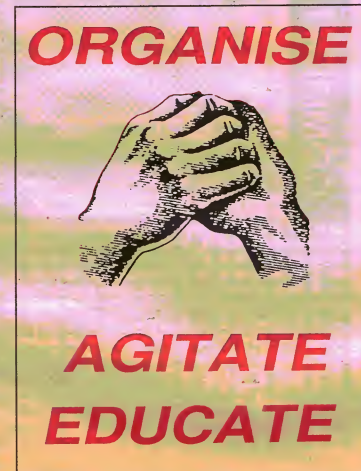
## BUS STRATEGY

A STRATEGY FOR BUS WORKERS is now available from us should you not have seen a copy or would like more. It is a look at the bus industry, trade unions and our working lives by bus workers themselves and proposes a strategy for tackling the basic problems facing us - low pay, long hours, poor working conditions, a lack of organisation in small companies and increasing competition leaving us the losers every time.

We strongly recommend all busworkers read this and get copies around their depot.

Transport Workers Network, PO Box 73, Norwich, NR1 2EB.

ties. The 'locals' would form the backbone of the union. Together with the industrial federations this would form the (national) Confederated union. This structure would be totally different to any reformist or existing working class organisation,



however the difference of structure is in ITSELF not enough. The activity and involvement of the union members is still the most important part of any anarcho-syndicalist union. The difference between anarcho-syndicalist and present unions is this basic point: *The structure of an anarcho-syndicalist union with its power and decision making at the base, its system of federation and networking mean that it can fully utilise what is actually the real power of any working class organisation - vitality and initiative and the day today involvement of its members.* In other words an organisation that is LIVING.

## FIGHTING TO WIN

With this vitality must be the commitment to FIGHT. Structure and workers participation is not in itself enough to win even a wage rise.

We are not saying that workers should wait for an anarcho-syndicalist union to be formed before we should take direct action, only that direct action is a fundamental part of anarcho-syndicalism.

We have to use our experience and imaginations to do whatever is necessary to win. To allow our imaginations to flourish, workers must be in control of our own destinies, not pawns in some union leader's power game.

How often have we heard the irrelevant cries from the 'left' to ask the TUC to call a general strike whenever a group of workers is in struggle. And conversely, how pathetic is the TUC in its tokenistic posturing, calling for 15 minutes 'dignified' stoppages, days of action, birthday parties for the NHS and so on.

People taking industrial action know what is best for their workplace. But lessons must be learned. Faced with a hostile government prepared to spend a fortune to win industrial disputes, the all-out and stay out approach is as archaic as the reformist trade union movement itself. As shown by the

miners, the P&O seafarers and the News International printers, holding out month after month was no substitute for class solidarity. We don't need any more glorious defeats.

There are classic examples of effective action, from work to rules to go-slows, sabotage, selective and all-out strikes to occupations. During the 1989 local government workers' strike there were instances of computers being sabotaged and essential files being locked away to stop any scabs doing the work. French railway workers sabotaging tracks, ambulance workers occupying stations, miners blocking motorways; solidarity actions where, for instance, miners supported nurses, railway workers refused to carry scab coal, and so it goes on.

The best methods are those suited to the prevailing situation, and no-one knows that better than the workers involved. Direct Action gets results, but more than that it EMPOWERS workers.

We totally reject collaboration with the exploiting class. What they design to give us, they may take back. What we take is ours, and we will not allow them to steal from us again!

## WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

In advocating the building of industrial networks and revolutionary, or anarcho-syndicalist unions, we ARE advocating a complete break from the influence of the TUC/Labour Party straight-jacket.

We want politics in the real sense, not just putting a cross on a ballot paper every 4 or 5 years, or marching to Hyde Park, placard in hand, shouting slogans.

When we say we want workers control of industry it is not purely to prove that we could do it, just to replace management for profit with SELF-management for need. We would like to see a radical change in the whole structure of industry, as part of IMPROVING our lives and our environment.

We want revolutionary change, but not the false idea of some mythical homogenous mass rising to fulfil its historical destiny. This is pure fatalism of the kind that destroys any chance of a genuinely CREATIVE force capable of destroying capitalism once and for all. We seek and desire a revolution of the individual and community in harmony, where every member of society feels a part of that society and so plays an active part in it, rather than being a mere cog in a vast machine outside of their control. Capitalism needs to be totally eradicated. To allow ourselves to be accommodated within it as the likes of Smith and Willis would have is to destroy our humanity and lose all social responsibility.



# Education

Taken from The General Assembly, Spring 1993 Bulletin of the Education Workers Network.

## John from Merseyside EWN looks at the future for staff and students in the Further Education sector

On April 1st this year virtually all F.E. colleges will be reformed from local authority control and placed under the control of the F.E. Funding Council. This is far more than a bureaucratic re-organisation - the implications are extremely important for staff and students alike.

### WHO WILL CONTROL THE COLLEGES?

Colleges have never been run on a democratic basis. Most are controlled by local councils who have shown only limited interest in them. They have a long record of complacency and mis-management. The day to day running of the colleges is undertaken almost exclusively by principles who are only nominally controlled by boards of mainly unelected governors. Under incorporation the colleges will become self managing rather like the NHS Trust hospitals. This will make the college management even more powerful. A central body called The F.E. Funding Council will ensure that colleges that don't fit in with government plans will have their budgets cut or cancelled. So from April onwards there will not even be the pretence that the colleges are subject to democratic control.

### THREAT TO STAFF

The implications for staff are immense. Their present conditions of service and pay can be altered by the management providing the management go through a process of "consultation" first. Most college principles have joined a sinister organisation called the College Employers Forum (annual subs £7,000). The leader of this organisation, Robert Ward, is a particularly nasty piece of work. He is demanding that there are massive changes in staff conditions e.g. teaching hours to increase by at least 50%; holidays halved; and no pay increases this year for any staff who do not accept these new conditions. If these proposals are accepted then the demand for teaching staff will be reduced and the quality of service will suffer greatly. There will be no more national negotiations. Pay and conditions will be negotiated at local level. The

staff in some colleges may be able to protect themselves for a while but in colleges with weak union organisation the staff can look forward to a very rough ride in the near future.

### RECOGNITION FOR SCABS

The Employers Forum are insisting that the scab unions be given recognition and equal status to the T.U.C. unions. This is despite the fact that the scab outfits are tiny and hardly capable of organising anything. The T.U.C. unions aren't much better and are only now beginning to wake up to the threats coming from the employers. Although I suspect they are more worried about their own jobs than those of their members.

## Fighting the Scab Unions

### ATTACKS ON STUDENTS AND COURSES

Students will almost certainly suffer in that courses will have to operate on a profit making basis. This means that you will have to pay enormous fees or enrol on courses that the government selects for you. There will be strong emphasis on low level training courses, which experience shows are pretty useless in actually getting students jobs and at best qualify you for the most boring and poorly paid jobs.

### WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

The situation is serious but not hopeless. We need to get organising now. All staff and students should prepare themselves for any an all eventualities. It is likely that changes will be introduced at different places throughout the country with existing staff and students remaining relatively unaffected for a while. It will be new staff and courses that will be hit first. We need to liaise nationally and be ready to react when colleges and staff are picked off. The official unions don't have a good fighting record but we will be able to use them to communicate with fellow workers and students. The coming fight in F.E. will without doubt test us and the unions.

## INTERNATIONAL WORKERS ASSOCIATION

While we call for workers solidarity we see no reason for it to be restricted to Britain or any other country. As capitalism, and indeed state's, are becoming increasingly internationalist in outlook, everlooking for new 'markets' to exploit, so too must we REKINDLE the spirit of internationalism amongst workers.

Thatcher's policy of free-market capitalism went hand in hand with rabid nationalism and jingoism. Anyone who opposed her policies were condemned as traitors, the 'enemy within'. Along with everything else, the Labour Party and the TUC capitulated and ended up using similar slogans. 'British' this and 'British' that, almost trying to outdo the Tories in patriotism.

A genuine workers movement has got to completely reject this. If we promote SOLIDARITY we can hardly accept reactionary attitudes, like racism and sexism, that help weaken any possibilities of action. Likewise, we see no place for nationalism as far as positive change is concerned. Workers are exploited everywhere - that is our common link. We have far more in common with French railway workers, Polish miners

or South African street cleaners that we have with any British boss or politician.

The DAM is the British section of the International Workers Association (IWA), which was formed in 1922. Up until the end of WWII it had over 5 million affiliates around the world,

consisting of revolutionary and anarcho-syndicalist unions. These were workers organisations free from the influence of political parties and the state. A combination of war, fascism, state-communism and capitalism all but broke it. But not quite! With the death of Franco in Spain and the subsequent rebirth of the CNT (Confederación Nacional Del Trabajo), the Anarcho-Syndicalist union, the IWA got a new lease of life.

Although nowhere near its previous strength, there are IWA sections in more than a dozen countries. Some are small propaganda groups at the moment, others are functioning unions. When in time, the industrial networks federate it is hoped that organisation will replace the DAM as the British section of the IWA.



## 1st of May

The Government, not surprisingly, has announced plans to abolish the 'May Day' holiday. Whether they abolish it totally as a holiday or rename it is yet to be decided (in recent times some Tory backbenchers have suggested 'Winston Churchill Day'). This shouldn't come as a shock since old Winston wasn't averse to ordering the police and army to shoot workers).

Now we would argue for people to fight for the right to have a holiday (at anytime of year) but we are not going to start bleating over this, as no doubt the 'left' will - call for the TUC to call a General Strike! - and elements in the Labour Party. These people have already abandoned 'May Day' as a workers holiday, many years ago.

'May Day', the 1st of May, is that or nothing, bank holiday monday is just another concession to the bosses. Instead of trying to defend something that has been reluctantly given to us, we should be calling for the RECLAIMING of 'May Day' as OUR day, a day to remember those who died in the struggles against the capitalists, and a day to have a bloody good time!

It doesn't really matter what the Tories say or the Labour Party/TUC hacks, the First May belongs to us and we'll never give it up.

## CONTACTS

SECRETARIAT: c/o Leeds DAM-IWA: 52 Call Lane Leeds, LS2

### SOUTH EAST

North London DAM-IWA: PO Box 1681 London N8 7LE  
East London DAM-IWA: c/o 84B Whitechapel High Street  
London E1 7QX  
Deptford DAM-IWA: PO Box 574 London SE4 1DL  
South Herts DAM-IWA: PO Box 493 St Albans AL1 5TW

### EASTERN

Norwich DAM-IWA: PO Box 73 Norwich NR1 2EB

### WESTERN

Bristol DAM-IWA: PO Box 948, Bristol, BS99 5QE  
Norton-Radstock DAM-IWA: PO Box 1592 Midsummer  
Norton BA3 3FH

### MIDLANDS

Leicester DAM-IWA: c/o 70 High Street Leicester

### NORTH EAST

Leeds DAM-IWA: Box DAM 52 Call Lane Leeds LS2  
Middleborough DAM-IWA: c/o Leeds  
South Yorks DAM-IWA: PO Box 122 Doncaster S Yorks

### NORTH WEST

Manchester DAM-IWA: PO Box 29 SWPDO Manchester M15 5HW  
Liverpool DAM-IWA: PO Box 110 Liverpool L69 8PP  
Preston DAM-IWA: PO Box 384 Preston PR1 6PQ  
Burnley DAM-IWA: c/o Preston

### SCOTLAND

Edinburgh/Glasgow DAM-IWA: PO Box 516 SWDO Edinburgh  
EH10 7JH

### INDUSTRIAL NETWORKS

Transport: c/o Norwich  
Education: c/o Manchester  
Public Service: c/o Manchester & N London

### NETWORK SOLIDARITY FUND

Donations and standing order payments can be made to:  
Network Solidarity Fund, Acc. No 1228083 Sort Code 16-16-25  
Royal Bank of Scotland, Manchester Chorlton-Cum-Hardy Branch,  
44 Wilbraham Road Manchester, M21 1AR

## THIS IS THE DAM

1. The Direct Action Movement is a working class organisation.
2. Our aim is the creation of a free and classless society.
3. We are fighting to abolish the state, capitalism and wage slavery in all their forms and replace them by self-managed production for need, not profit.
4. In order to bring about the new social order, the workers must take over the means of production and distribution. We are the sworn enemies of those who would take over on behalf of the workers.
5. We believe that the only way for the working class to achieve this is by independent organisation in the workplace and the community and federation with others in the same industry and locality, independent of and opposed to all political parties and trade union bureaucracies. All such workers' organisations must be controlled by the workers themselves and must unite rather than divide the workers movement. Any and all delegates of such workers' organisations must be subject to immediate recall by the workers.
6. We are opposed to all states and state institutions. The working class has no country. The class struggle is world wide and recognises no artificial boundaries. The armies and police of all states do not exist to protect the workers of those states, they exist only as the repressive arm of the ruling class.
7. We oppose racism, sexism, militarism and all attitudes and institutions that stand in the way of equality and the right of all people everywhere to control their own lives and environment.
8. The Direct Action Movement is resolved to initiate, encourage and wholeheartedly support the creation of independent workers' unions based on the principles of anarcho-syndicalism.
9. The Direct Action Movement is a federation of groups and individuals who believe in the principles of anarcho-syndicalism: a system where the workers alone control industry and the community without the dictates of politicians, bureaucrats, bosses and so-called experts.

### WINNING THE CLASS WAR

The DAM pamphlet 'Winning the Class War - An Anarcho-Syndicalist Strategy', which sets out the reasons for the industrial networks, is being updated and will be available in the near future.

Anyone who would like a copy of the first one FREE should send a SAE to Box DAM, 52 Call Lane, Leeds LS2 or PO Box 574 London SE4 1DL



# DIRECT ACTION

INDUSTRIAL SUPPLEMENT

FREE

handful of people who were in the DAM, a small minority.

Of course DAM members will attempt to create new Networks and act as militants within them - they are ANARCHO-SYNDICALISTS after all! So to clarify: the networks that exist now are Anarcho-syndicalist in politics and structure but *independent* in decision making and activity. There is no DAM 'Central Committee' lurking behind them nor will there ever be.

## LEAVING THE 'LEFT' BEHIND

We could fill this paper with articles about the history of Anarcho-syndicalism, from the First International to the Russian Revolution to Spain 1936, where the working-class gained more control than anything seen before or since. Alternatively, we could fill the pages with our vision of a free and equal society without class divisions. Both would make interesting reading and debate, but with whom? While we see a place for such writing we feel that most people are likely to ask us what we should do NOW.

We live in the present, therefore our starting point is 'What is happening and why, and how can we change things? Sterile debates with the middle-class led Marxist 'left' have not much favour with us or many others for that matter. One of these groups had, a while back, on the front page of its paper: 'British workers need a need a Bolshevik Party'. Sure, like we need an ice-pick in the head! Is it any wonder

that they are so derided by working-class people?

While the 'left' - from Trotskyites to those who thought Stalin was a bit of a liberal - has spent years debating what is in effect HISTORY, like religious sects, the bosses and the State have been fucking us over quite nicely, thank you very much. Question: What are we going to do about it? Debate whether Marx had a longer beard than Bakunin (anarchist) or suggest ways to organise and fight back? We know in which direction we intend moving in.

We are not opposed to political debate, and we certainly want a politicised working-class, but any discussion must be relevant and in context with the struggles that are before us today. The 'left' has paralysed itself, with little hope of recovery. We aren't going to waste our time and energy in mourning its demise. Quite the opposite. It wasn't long ago that socialists, communists and anarchists were treated with respect by workers. They were militants but were trusted because they were from WITHIN the same communities, as they could be called then. The 'left' have actually divorced politics from those same people because they are from WITHOUT. We have much lost ground to catch up on.

## THE BUSINESS

We want a workers movement that is confident and has the commitment to fight a class war with the same conviction as the Tory

Party and their allies are doing now. A movement that is open to ALL working-class people, waged or unwaged, where Solidarity is not a mere slogan. One that takes pride in itself and its achievements.

We want nothing but the best for our class, and that doesn't mean 'A fair day's wage for a fair day's work'. It means, in the short term, higher wages, shorter hours, better conditions. In fact we want what the middle-classes take for granted. Why shouldn't we have decent homes for all? We bloody built them!

We want all that and more. But it must be at the expense of the bosses not other workers. Surely the last 15 years have shown that sitting back and watching while one section of workers has been attacked (miners, printers, dockers etc.) has got us nowhere and the bosses in the position they are in today.

People will no doubt ask us how the type of Union we are advocating will be any better than the existing ones. The reply will be simple: It's up to you. YOU will be the Union. If you want to fight for higher wages or whatever then the Union will fight. We have nothing but contempt for the TUC bureaucrats who have, and are, selling-out the interests of their members.

From the 'Depressions' of the 20/30's to the 'Recessions' of today the rich have always stayed rich. Funny isn't it? And we've only ever achieved anything by fighting for it - right? It's time the bosses tasted the fear again.